

Issue 2002-04, Released 4/18/02

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*Thank You*

to all the  
producers who  
participated in our  
recent surveys. The results  
you requested are in this issue.

*Agricultural Prices  
Prospective Plantings  
Cattle on Feed  
Livestock Slaughter  
Milk Production*

### DRY BEAN PRICES HIGHER; HAY PRICES STEADY

The **Index of Prices Received** by farmers and ranchers in **Wyoming** for agricultural commodities sold during March was 105 percent of the 1990-1992 base. The index was up 1 point (1 percent) from February and 2 points (2 percent) higher than March 2001. The All Crops Index was up 6 points (5 percent) from February and was 12 points (11 percent) higher than March 2001. Prices for corn and dry beans were higher than the previous month. Feed barley, alfalfa hay, and other hay were unchanged. Wheat and oats prices were down from the previous month. The All Livestock Index was unchanged from both February and last year. Cow prices and sheep prices were higher than February but steer and heifer prices, calf prices, and lamb prices were lower. The seasonal changes in the mix of commodities farmers sell also affect the overall indexes.

The **Index of Prices Received for Livestock**, at 101, was unchanged from both the previous month and last March. Sheep prices, at \$38.00 per hundredweight, were \$1.30 higher than the previous month but were \$9.90

lower than last year. Lamb prices averaged \$74.00 per hundredweight, 40 cents lower than February and \$12.40 lower than March 2001. Steer and heifer prices, at \$82.50 were down 90 cents from February and \$3.50 lower than last year. Cow prices, at \$43.00 per hundredweight, were up \$1.20 from February and were \$1.50 higher than last March. Calf prices averaged \$105.00 per hundredweight, down \$1.00 from both the previous month and last year.

The **Index of Prices Received for Crops**, at 121, was up 6 points from February and 12 points higher than last year. Both alfalfa hay and other hay prices were unchanged. Alfalfa hay was \$13.00 higher than last year and other hay was \$12.00 higher than last March. The average corn price, at \$2.15 per bushel, was up 4 cents from February but was 4 cents lower than March 2001. Oats averaged \$1.70 per bushel, down 3 cents from February and 6 cents lower than last year. Feed barley averaged \$1.90 per bushel, unchanged from February and 11 cents higher than last March. Wheat, at \$2.70 per bushel, was down 16 cents from February and 11 cents lower than March 2001. Dry beans averaged \$27.00 per hundredweight, up \$2.50 from February and \$12.00 higher than last year.

**UNITED STATES:** The preliminary Prices Received by Farmers Index for All Farm Products in March was 106, using a 1990-92=100 base period, up 7 points (7.1 percent) from the February index. A record price for lettuce, along with other increases for eggs, cattle, and tomatoes, more than offset decreased prices for broilers, milk, hogs, and broccoli. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell often affects the overall index. Higher marketings for strawberries, lettuce, milk, and tomatoes more than offset decreased marketings of cattle, oranges, corn, and cotton.

Compared with March 2001, the Prices Received Index was up 2 points (1.9 percent). Higher prices for lettuce, strawberries, potatoes, and apples more than offset lower prices for broilers, hogs, cattle, and tomatoes.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND RANCHERS, MARCH 2001, FEBRUARY 2002, AND MARCH 15, 2002									
U.S. PRICES AS PERCENT OF PARITY									
COMMODITY	UNIT	WYOMING			UNITED STATES				
		MAR 2001	FEB 2002	MAR 15 2002	MAR 2001	FEB 2002	MAR 15 2002	% OF PARITY	
		Dollars			Dollars			Percent	
<b>LIVESTOCK AND PRODUCTS</b>									
	Cows	100#	41.50	41.80	43.00	42.30	40.60	42.40	—
	Steers & Heifers	100#	86.00	83.40	82.50	80.50	73.60	75.30	—
	Calves	100#	106.00	106.00	105.00	112.00	105.00	104.00	50
	Sheep	100#	47.90	36.70	38.00	46.60	35.30	1/	—
Lambs	100#	86.40	74.40	74.00	84.00	67.40	1/	—	
<b>CROPS</b>									
	Corn	Bu.	2.19	2.11	2.15	1.96	1.93	1.92	30
	Oats	Bu.	1.76	1.73	1.70	1.24	1.91	1.97	51
	Feed Barley	Bu.	1.79	1.90	1.90	1.76	1.70	1.77	—
	All Wheat	Bu.	2.81	2.86	2.70	2.87	2.83	2.81	30
	Dry Beans	100#	15.00	24.50	27.00	16.90	26.20	26.90	57
	Alfalfa Hay (Baled)	Ton	101.00	114.00	114.00	95.00	99.50	98.80	—
	Other Hay (Baled)	Ton	96.00	108.00	108.00	75.10	70.80	73.00	—
1/Mid-month prices discontinued January 1996.									
<b>NOTE:</b> Entire month price is a revision of previous mid-month price except for hay which is always a mid-month price.									
<b>INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS &amp; RANCHERS, WYOMING &amp; U.S.</b>									
1990-92 = 100		WYOMING			UNITED STATES				
		MAR 2001	FEB 2002	MAR 15 2002	MAR 2001	FEB 2002	MAR 15 2002		
All Commodities		103	104	105	104	99	106		
All Crops		109	115	121	99	101	117		
All Livestock and Products		101	101	101	108	97	96		

## SPRING PLANTING OF DRY BEANS EXPECTED TO BE LARGER; MOST CROPS SMALLER

As of March 1, Wyoming farmers intended to plant 491,500 acres of small grains and row crops this Spring. This is down 3 percent from the 505,500 acres planted in 2001, and 12 percent less than in 2000. As the drought continues, producers are uncertain about irrigation water supplies during the growing season. Planting intentions for oats and sugarbeets were lower than actual 2001 plantings while intentions for dry beans and spring wheat were higher than 2001 plantings. Corn and barley planting intentions were unchanged from actual plantings last year. Winter wheat seedings last fall were off 6 percent from the previous year.

**Small Grains:** Wyoming's 2002 **barley** acreage is expected to total 100,000 acres, unchanged from last year, but down 5,000 acres from 2000. Farmers intend to plant 60,000 acres of **oats**, 15,000 acres below last year and also 5,000 acres below 2000. **Spring wheat** acreage, at 9,000 acres, would be up 1,000 acres from last year, but 2,000 acres below 2000 if plans are realized. **Winter wheat** was seeded on 150,000 acres last fall, down 10,000 acres from the 2001 crop and the smallest winter wheat seeded area since 1940.

**Row Crops:** Wyoming farmers expect to plant 90,000 acres of **corn** this year, unchanged from last year and from 2000. Producers intend to plant 47,500 acres of **sugarbeets**, down 1,000 acres from last year, and the smallest sugarbeet acreage since 1984. **Dry bean** plantings this year are expected to total 35,000 acres, up 11,000 acres from 2001, but 1,000 acres below 2000.

The total acreage of **all hay** expected to be harvested in the State in 2002 is 1.15 million acres. This would be up 2 percent, or 20,000 acres, from last year, 1 percent above 2000, but still 11 percent below the 1999 crop acreage.

These estimates are based on a survey conducted in early March. Actual plantings may vary from these estimates because of weather, economic conditions, and the effect of this report itself.

**UNITED STATES:** **Corn** growers intend to plant 79.0 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2002, up 4 percent from 2001 but down 1 percent from 2000. Expected acreage is up in many areas of the United States and in virtually all areas of the Corn Belt.

Planted area for the 2002 **winter wheat** crop is 41.1 million acres, nearly identical to the previous year's acreage. This is the lowest acres seeded to winter wheat since 1971. Of the total, about 29.3 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 8.4 million acres Soft Red Winter, and 3.4 million acres White Winter. **Other spring wheat** growers intend to plant 15.1 million acres this year, down 3 percent from 2001. Of the total, about 14.2 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat.

**Barley** growers intend to seed 5.08 million acres for 2002, up 2 percent from the record low of 4.97 million acres seeded a year ago. **Oats** seeded and to be seeded for the 2002 crop year is expected to total 5.13 million acres, up 16 percent, or 726,000 acres, from last year's final planted acres. If intentions are realized, planted and harvested acres would be the highest since 1995.

Area planted to **dry beans** for the 2002 crop year is expected to total 1.77 million acres, up 24 percent from last year and less than 1 percent above 2000. Area planted to **sugarbeets** for the 2002 crop year is expected to total 1.42 million acres, 3 percent above the 2001 planted acres.

**Planting Intentions for 2002 and Actual Plantings for 2001,  
Wyoming and United States**

Crops	Acreage Planted/to Be Planted					
	Wyoming			United States 1/		
	2001	2002 Intentions	% 02/01	2001	2002 Intentions	% 02/01
	1,000 Acres			1,000 Acres		
Corn, All Purposes	90	90	100	75,752	79,047	104
Winter Wheat	160	150	94	41,078	41,076	100
Durum Wheat	—	—	—	2,910	2,842	98
Other Spring Wheat	8	9	113	15,629	15,086	97
Oats	75	60	80	4,403	5,129	116
Barley	100	100	100	4,967	5,078	102
Sugarbeets	48.5	47.5	98	1,371.1	1,418.4	103
Dry Edible Beans	24	35	146	1,429.9	1,766.5	124
Hay, All 2/	1,130	1,150	102	63,511	63,743	100

1/ Excludes Alaska and Hawaii

2/ Area for harvest

## U.S. CATTLE ON FEED DOWN 3 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.52 million head on March 1, 2002. Inventory was down 2 percent from the 11.70 million head on March 1, 2001 but 2 percent above March 1, 2000.

Placements in February totaled 1.81 million, 14 percent above 2001 but 4 percent below 2000. Placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 260,000, 600-699 pounds were 410,000, 700-799 pounds were 662,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 473,000.

Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.80 million, 2 percent above 2001 but 12 percent below 2000.

Cattle on feed March 1, 2002, in the historic 7 monthly States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.91 million, down 1 percent from the previous year but 2 percent above March 1, 2000.

### CATTLE ON FEED: 1000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, SELECTED STATES AND UNITED STATES, MAR 1, 2001-2002 1/

State	On Feed Feb 1, 2002	Place- ments Feb 2002	Market- ings Feb 2002	Other Disapp. Feb 2002	On Feed Mar 1, 2002	On Feed Mar 1, 2001
Thousand Head						
CO	1,180	185	205	10	1,150	1,190
KS	2,450	435	450	15	2,420	2,470
NE	2,290	370	350	10	2,300	2,380
TX	2,850	410	400	10	2,850	2,840
Oth						
Sts.	*2,802	405	391	18	2,798	2,815
U.S.	*11,572	1,805	1,796	63	11,518	11,695

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

\*Revised

## U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION ABOVE LAST YEAR

Commercial red meat production in *Wyoming* during February 2002 totaled 400,000 pounds. This is down 100,000 pounds from January 2002 and unchanged from February 2001. Commercial red meat production excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Six hundred **cattle** were slaughtered, up 200 head from February 2001. Total liveweight was 710,000 pounds, up 47 percent from February 2001. Average liveweight of cattle slaughtered was 1,175 pounds, 33 pounds heavier than last year.

Three hundred **hogs** and **pigs** were processed, unchanged from a year ago. Total liveweight, at 75,000 pounds, was down 16 percent from last year. Average liveweight of hogs slaughtered was 256 pounds, 7 pounds below a year ago.

One hundred **sheep** and **lambs** were processed totaling 15,000 pounds liveweight. Average liveweight of sheep and lambs slaughtered was 155 pounds, up 23 pounds from a year earlier.

January - February red meat production was 900,000 pounds, unchanged from last year.

**UNITED STATES:** Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.50 billion pounds in February, up 3 percent from the 3.40 billion pounds produced in February 2001.

**Beef production**, at 1.99 billion pounds, was 6 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.61 million head, up 1 percent from February 2001. The average liveweight was 1,255 pounds, up 38 pounds from February a year ago.

**Pork production** totaled 1.48 billion pounds, virtually unchanged from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.50 million head, 1 percent below February 2001. The average liveweight was 267 pounds, up 3 pounds from February a year ago.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 18 million pounds, was up 1 percent from February 2001. Sheep slaughter totaled 256,100 head, 4 percent above last year. The average liveweight was 138 pounds, down 5 pounds from February a year ago.

January - February red meat production was 7.58 billion pounds, up 3 percent above the previous year. Accumulated beef production was up 6 percent from last year, pork was up 1 percent, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER, FEBRUARY 2001 AND 2002, Wyoming and U.S.										
SPECIES	WYOMING					UNITED STATES				
	Number of Head		Total Liveweight			Number of Head		Total Liveweight		
	Feb 2001	Feb 2002	Feb 2001	Feb 2002	% 02/01	Feb 2001	Feb 2002	Feb 2001	Feb 2002	% 02/01
			1,000 Pounds					1,000 Pounds		
<b>Cattle</b>	400	600	484	710	147	2,580,400	2,614,800	3,139,330	3,281,868	105
<b>Hogs</b>	300	300	89	75	84	7,604,200	7,500,000	2,005,167	1,999,833	100
<b>Sheep &amp; Lambs</b>	100	100	8	15	188	245,400	256,100	35,197	35,323	100

## WYOMING MILK PRODUCTION UP 4 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

The number of milk cows in **Wyoming** during January-March 2002 averaged 4,500 head. The number of cows was unchanged from the previous quarter but down 100 head from the same quarter one year ago. Milk production during 2002's first quarter was 15.8 million pounds, down 2 percent from the previous three months but 4 percent more than the same quarter last year.

**UNITED STATES:** The quarterly production of milk for the U.S. was 42.3 billion pounds, 2 percent above the January-March period last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the January-March quarter was 9.11 million head, 38,000 head fewer than the same period last year.

**MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION,  
SELECTED STATES AND U.S., JAN-MAR, 2001 AND 2002**

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Production 2/		Change from 2001
	2001	2002	2001	2002	
	1,000 Head		Million Pounds		Percent
<b>WY</b>	4.6	4.5	15.2	15.8	3.9
CA	1,568	1,626	8,097	8,450	4.4
CO	90	95	483	513	6.2
ID	357	381	1,817	1,949	7.3
MT	19	18	84	84	0
NE	75	68	306	283	- 7.5
SD	100	98	393	402	2.3
UT	93	92	394	397	0.8
WI	1,311	1,278	5,603	5,526	- 1.4
<b>US</b>	9,143	9,105	41,267	42,271	2.4

1/Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/Excludes milk sucked by calves.